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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable

ROUTINE

COUNTRY PALESTINE / ARAB STATES

TDCS -3/575,266

DATE OF FEBRUARY 1961

00001 10 MARCH 1961

INFO.

SUBJECT

VIEWS OF THE EX-GRAND MUFTI AL-HUSSEINI ON THE
PALESTINE QUESTION

PLACE &

DATE ACQ.

ENGLAND, LONDON (10 MARCH 1961)

REF

IN 36310

SOURCE

AND

INFORMATION

OFFICIAL BRITISH SERVICE FROM A SOURCE DESCRIBED AS "WELL KNOWN, EXPERIENCED
IN REPORTING AND RELIABLE, FROM A WELL PLACED INFORMANT."

FIELD REPORT NO. CEL-37,505

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PALESTINIAN EXILES URGING THEM TO REMAIN TRUE TO THEIR COUNTRY'S CAUSE AND NOT BE TAKEN IN BY SHUQAIRI, THE PROTEGE OF THE PROTEGE OF THE AMERICANS.

3. AL-HUSSEINI'S MAIN IMMEDIATE CONCERN IS JORDAN WHERE HE BELIEVES THE ATTITUDE OF KING HUSAYN MAY DETERMINE WHETHER THE PALESTINIAN EXILES REMAIN SUPPORTERS OF HIS, AS THEY ARE AT PRESENT EXCEPT FOR THE NASIRITES, OR WHETHER THEY DEFECT TO SHUQAIRI. HE FEELS THAT IN HIS PRESENT PRO-NASIR MOOD, HUSAYN MAY TRY TO IMPOSE SHUQAIRI ON THE PALESTINIANS. AL-HUSSEINI HAS THEREFORE SENT AN EMISSARY TO HUSAYN WARNING HIM THAT, IN THAT EVENTUALITY, HE (AL-HUSSEINI) WOULD NO LONGER CONSIDER HIMSELF BOUND BY THE SECRET AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH HE ACCEPTED THE ANNEXATION BY JORDAN OF THE TERRITORIES ON THE WEST BANK OF THE JORDAN RIVER.

4. OF ALL THE PALESTINIAN EXILES, THOSE ON WHOM CONTINUED SUPPORT AL-HUSSEINI FEELS HE CAN RELY WITH MOST CERTAINTY ARE THE CHRISTIANS, SINCE ALMOST WITHOUT EXCEPTION THEY ARE FEARFUL OF NABIR.

5. FIELD DISSEM: STATE CINCUSNAVEUR CINCMEAPSA CINCSOUTH (PERSONAL).

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